



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Nathaniel H. Yohalem, Chair
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of November 4, 2013

Board Members Present: Nathaniel Yohalem, Chairman
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Jessica Bosworth, Administrative Secretary

The meeting convened at 6:01 pm.

A motion was made, seconded and so approved by all members to approve the minutes of October 21, 2013.

Updates and Announcements

Chairman Yohalem announced that the meetings of the Board of Selectmen will regularly begin at 6:00 pm, instead of 6:30 pm. The announcement will be posted in the 5 Village News, on Maggie's List and changed on the Town website.

Chairman Yohalem also announced that there will be a quarterly Department Heads meeting held on November 20, 2013 at 5:00 pm at the Town Hall. It will include Fire, Police, Highway, Emergency Management and the Rescue Squad. The agenda is to discuss the capital needs of the departments in order to begin the work on a capital plan.

It was noted that there will be no Selectmen's meeting next Monday, November 11 due to Veteran's Day. The next meeting will take place on November 18 at 6:00 pm, to be followed by the special Town meeting at 7:00 pm.

Administrative Secretary, Jessica Bosworth, confirmed the Foley Bridge project pre-construction meeting to take place on Wednesday, November 6 at 11:00 am at the Town Hall. It will include representatives from BSC Group and J.H. Maxymillian, the Clerk of the Works and Highway Superintendent, Charles Loring. Chairman Yohalem will be representing the Board.

Michele Shalaby will be contacting Elizabeth Olenbush about solar energy options for the Town and to discuss details on becoming a "green community".

Administrative Assistant, Michael Skorput, received materials from the Land Trust attorney regarding the Land Trust sale. After further review, Mr. Skorput will confer with Town Counsel on having a deed written.

The Board received a letter from the American Legion releasing the Town from any liability on the items being stored at the Town Hall.

It was noted that there is no updated information on the software contract for the Police department.

Town Clerk, Kathy Chretien, is in the process of reviewing the safe proposals for the storage of Town records.

Chairman Yohalem read aloud two letters of correspondence. The first was from Gretchen Long, interested in purchasing land from the Town, providing her updated mailing addresses. The second was from Prudence Spaulding, Animal Inspector of the Town, who had written to the Police Chief about Bonnie Bassis, an Egremont resident willing to accept stray animals and/or to provide quarantine. Her letter also included a warning about horses on route 57 that continue to escape.

Transfer Station

The Board discussed the estimates provided by Joe Wilkinson on the Transfer Station repairs which will cost the Town up to \$15,000.00. The total budgeted amount for the repairs and new compactor is \$53,000.00. The Board would like an itemized list of costs for the entirety of the project including totals of: Joe Wilkinson's work, concrete blocks, the compactor and electrical work. A separate estimate of the annual operating costs and a possible lease plan for the compactor was also requested. Further discussion on the matter was deferred until the next Selectmen's meeting.

Security System

Chairman Yohalem read aloud the total installation and annual monitoring costs from Lee Audio 'N Security for security systems at the Town Hall and Highway Department. The Board had a discussion about security at the Fire Station and the possibility of individualizing the key pads that would allow access to the buildings. A question also arose about whether or not the Town's insurance company would offer a discount on rates with new security in place. **After a discussion a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to accept the proposal from Lee Audio 'N Security for the installation cost of \$1,963.00 and annual monitoring fee of \$291.00 for a security system at the Highway Department.** The Board decided to hold its decision on the security system for the Town Hall.

Pole Hearing

A representative from Nation Grid came before the Board to propose the installation of a new utility pole [Pole 8.5] to service a new resident at 48 New Marlborough Hill Road, placed approximately 1,500 feet from the intersection of Hartsville New Marlborough Road. All abutters

were notified. **A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to accept the petition of National Grid to install a new pole to serve 48 New Marlborough Hill Road.**

Special Town Meeting Warrant

The Board discussed and decided on which members would be responsible for possible questions posed by audience members on the articles of the Special Town Meeting. They are as follows:

Article 1 – Michele Shalaby

Article 2 – Michael Skorput

Article 3 – Tara White

Article 4 – Michael Skorput

Article 5 – Chairman Yohalem

Article 6 – Chairman Yohalem

Article 7 – Planning Board

A motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to approve the minutes of October 28, 2013 as amended.

Further Announcements

Tara White and Michele Shalaby attended a function at the New Marlborough School, at which sixth grade classes from all five Towns were represented. An essay contest is being held between the students posing the question: if I were a leader for a day, what changes would I make or what would I do? The essays will be available to read at the end of the contest.

Chairman Yohalem reported that about 15 children came to the Town Hall on Halloween night with their parents and were invited in to look around Town Hall. The Chairman took the first hour shift, until Town Clerk, Katherine Chretien came for the remaining hour and a half. The Board felt that it was good community involvement and was worth doing again next year.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made and seconded and so voted to adjourn at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Bosworth
Administrative Secretary